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LIVING ABOUT THE COLONEL

That intense hostility which Colonel Roosevelt has felt of late for President Wilson has been explained. The information comes as a gift of light through the clouds, and clears up what heretofore has been a deep, dark mystery. The London Mail lets in the light in the following telegram to it from a correspondent who has just visited the colonel. It says:

"As a matter of fact the ex-president feels so acutely the burden his country has cut in the war that he doubts whether he could ever again endure to visit Europe. When the Louisiana was sunk and American intervention seemed inevitable, it is a fairly open secret that the ex-president made in secret preparations for raising a force of about 12,000 men on lines of his old Rough Rider regiment. The general, colonels, majors and some of the captains were secretly selected, and for his adjutant general, Colonel Roosevelt picked a man long known to me as one of the ablest officers in the United States cavalry. Every detail had been covered and the ex-president calculated that within three months after the declaration of war he and his men would be in Flanders. To foreign that dream has been one of the bitterest disappointments of his life."

The London Daily Mail is a liar, and a crook, and a jackass and a burglar. The colonel never planned to raise a force of 12,000 rough riders to throw into Flanders in case the United States went to war with Germany. Twelve thousand men, indeed, is the colonel's military coddle of a milk sop that he should command a paltry corporate guard? And if he planned to raise such a force, would he be deterred by the fact that the United States did not go to war?

The London Daily Mail would never confine its vituperation of great soldiers to Kitchener. If the colonel prepared to go to war it would be with a force of at least 12,000 men. His social relations with the Kaiser make it beneath his dignity to command fewer men than the German emperor. Moreover, if he had planned to raise an army and roughride the trenches of Flanders, the failure of the United States government to declare war upon Germany could not have held him back. He would have commanded the necessary transports, moved his troops to Calais and taken command of all the forces along the western front.

And somehow too, it seems strange that the surcharge of martial virtues seem not more inclined to independent action. This is a free world and the present war is big enough for all who lust for blood. No doubt any of the belligerent nations would have been glad to pay his expenses to the battlefield, including those of his va-vois biographers and secretaries, a score of moving picture photographers and perhaps a mega regiment to keep him from getting hurt. The wonder is not that the United States kept out of the war but that Roosevelt did. What seems most have been his all these months with the universal spotlight focused upon Europe while he was forced to curb his forces and belligerent spirit and remain in the weary shadows of incomprehension peace.

But it must be remembered that the colonel is a man of action. He is no closet philosopher who scribbles armistices on paper. The fact that he has never taken charge of the war is proof that he never thought of going to war. Possibly the London Daily Mail has confused him with some of the Balkan states.

JUDGE DRYER AND THE SHOE TRUST

When it comes down to common lying and willful misrepresentation, command us to the Boston News Bureau, which goes further in that line than any other of the numerous trust owned organs which are seeking to discredit and deride the decision of Federal Judge Dyer at St. Louis last week, when, by the terms of his ruling, he put an end to the rule of one of the most outrageous monopolies in the United States—not the one of the largest operation, but one that affects every person in the Union—for we all wear shoes.

It might be stated that the News Bureau is published in the shadow of the big factory of the offending company at Beverly, Mass., and this may somewhat influence it when it said so vehemently—“Judge Dyer has buried a bomb at the * * shoe manufacturers of the country,” that by his decision “he makes it impossible for

the United Shoe Machinery company to enforce its leases,” and that the “shoe manufacturers themselves, must suffer until the situation is cleared.”

And just to be perfectly plain about it and that there can be no misunderstanding, it is proper to say that the above is a bare-faced falsehood and a wilful perversion of facts—a lying distortion which any newspaper should blush to be guilty of. Before further showing that this is true, it is not out of place to state that it was through Senator James A. Reed that the clause was kept in the federal bill which permitted the government to have a standing on which to put the iniquitous trust out of the running. Now here are the facts.

During the last fifteen years the United Shoe Machinery company, by the acquisition of some seventy manufacturers of like machinery, has secured control of about 98 per cent of the shoe machinery business of the country. All its important machinery—that without which shoe manufacturers cannot do business—is put out by it on leases, running generally for seventeen years. In those leases are provisions called “tying clauses,” which in effect prohibit, under heavy penalties, the lessee from using shoe machinery purchased from other dealers. The leases also require the lessee to purchase whatever supplies they may need from the United Company at such price as it may fix from time to time. If the shoe manufacturer violates any one provision in any one lease the United Company is given the right to cancel all leases which he may have and remove from his factory all the leased machines. When it is remembered that only the United Company can supply a complete line of shoe machinery, the power which that field of control gives becomes apparent at once. Through it, the United Company can close up any shoe factory and bankrupt any shoe manufacturer in the United States that may dare to rent or purchase a machine, no matter how good or how cheap, from anybody else. In view of this, was not Judge Dyer right when he said: “It is hard to see how the ingenuity of man could devise a scheme that would more effectively create a monopoly than the scheme set forth in the bill in this case?”

Every shoe manufacturer in the country must pay tribute to the United Company. There is, as we have said above, no other concern from which he can get a complete line of machinery. If he would do business, he must submit to whatever conditions the United Company may impose. Against this intolerable condition, the shoe manufacturers sought relief from the last Democratic congress. In response to their urgent appeals, Section 3 of the Clayton act was adopted. It denounces all such lease provisions as these we have mentioned, and makes it the duty of the courts at the suit of the government to prohibit their enforcement. A few weeks ago the attorney-general of the United States caused to be instituted in the federal court at St. Louis an action to compel obedience to the Clayton act. After exhaustive oral and written arguments, the court entered a preliminary injunction forbidding the exacting of the penalties imposed by the leases for a violation of the tying clauses pending the suit. The injunction does not prevent the United Company from collecting the rent or royalties received in its leases, or from enforcing any other provision thereof save those imposing heavy penalties upon the lessees for using machinery purchased from competitors of the United Company. If this had not been done, the testimony shows, the little competition that now struggles for existence in the shoe machinery business would in all probability be starved out before the final determination of the action.

In every effort made and every attempt by the government prior to that last week, it had been unsuccessful in its efforts to curb the greedy United Company, and therefore the Wilson administration and the people are to be congratulated on the victory secured on behalf of the “new freedom.”

ASIA IS NOW THE CRY

The grand old party of standpatronism and reform seems inclined to give up making the campaign on present calamity, realizing that the odds and the facts against them are too great with business booming all over the United States and no one in the West to take up the “hostile.”

And perhaps very much the same thing has occurred in regard to the predicted flooding of the country with cheap goods after the war and the prospect of hordes of poverty-stricken immigrants reducing wages to point never before known. But a high tariff enthusiast never gives up—there is always something to happen that will make protection the only salvation for this country.

And now these misguided and be-muddled Republican tariff howlers have changed their tune, and say that

it is Asia that will make a high tariff necessary. The Orientals, and not Europe, are to flood this country with cheap goods. They say: “Look at China with its 300,000,000 of population that can live on a handful of rice a day and do more work than any American! They are introducing machinery and will soon be manufacturing goods enough to supply the whole world, and with labor that only costs a few cents a day.” That settles the whole question with a protectionist. We must have a high tariff or we are ruined.

A very large section of the working force of this country is engaged in manufacturing machinery, sewing machines, farm machinery, the delicate instruments used in trade, locomotives, in the steel factories, etc. Think of the codgers bankrupting the harvester company and sending to starvation all the workers engaged in those occupations! Then a very large portion of the business in this country comes from the manufacture of women’s wear. Think of the codgers making coats, hats and dresses that American women would buy. Another large portion is engaged in agriculture. Think of the Chinese sending wheat, corn, cattle over here in such amounts that the farmers would be ruined. The protectionists imagine all that accomplished and stand appalled. So they cry “ruin” more hastily than ever. If China had all the machinery, she would have to have a new population before she could compete with the Yankee. It will take a long time to educate 300,000,000 people who are soaked in superstition and ignorance.

WHO ISSUED THE BONDS?

So much political claptrap is sent out by the National Republican public relations committee that it often gets the depositors of that misguided party who are in it embarrassed positions.

Not long ago the stampat bureau sent out to the Republican papers of Missouri a wall because the Wilson administration was talking about issuing some Panama canal bonds in order to raise funds for meeting certain deficiencies in federal revenues. This statement, it is recalled, was particularly distressing to the editor of *The Gazette*, who, while generally truthful and reliable in some other matters, was especially grieved because, as he said, the Republican party had built the canal without issuing any bonds. That information doubtless thrilled the Republican partisans into exhilarated enthusiasm. Unfortunately that bit of information is so ludicrously untrue as to excite pity for anyone who gave it currency. Here are the facts:

Panama canal bonds amounting to \$134,631,980 were issued prior to March 4, 1913, as follows:

Series of 1908, administration of President Roosevelt	\$14,851,580
Series of 1908, administration of President Roosevelt	30,000,000
Series of 1911, administration of President Taft	50,000,000

\$134,631,980

No Panama canal bonds have been issued by the present administration since November 11, 1915, the sum of \$161,002,455.68, subject under the law to reimbursement from sale of Panama canal bonds, has been expended or advanced for the canal from the general fund of the treasury, as follows:

Expenditure from 1902 to March 3, 1913	\$292,849,985.66
Expenditure since March 4, 1913	68,182,470.02

\$361,022,455.68

The total bond issue of \$134,631,980 put out by former administrations together with \$161,002,455.68 received as premium thereon realized \$155,600,000, which sum was not equal to the total canal expenditures to March 4, 1913, reimbursable to the treasury from proceeds of Panama canal bonds \$1,734,749,116.64, and with the \$58,182,470.02 of similar reimbursable expenditures during the present administration, makes a total sum of \$222,725,666 expended for the canal from the general fund of the treasury and not reimbursed from bond sales.

Section 25 of the tariff act of 1909 (36 Stat. 117) amended the panama canal act of June 28, 1902 (32 Stat. 481) and increased the authorized issue of bonds from \$10,000,000 to \$175,200,000, which latter sum was exceeded by the panama canal commission to cover the entire cost of the canal from its inception to completion, including the \$10,000,000 paid the French Canal company and the \$10,000,000 paid the republic of panama.

TOO BAD—IN SUCH HANDS!
As 1916 draws closer and closer Mr. Taft, a tolerant, liberal-conservative, of conspicuous fairness usually, reverts occasionally to the ancient professional hidebound Republican doctrine and parties. At Chicago, Thursday, he repeated the familiar but always engrossing theory that the Republican party is kindly nature, the

sole legitimate source of sunlight and oxygen, the only genuine producer of bumper crops and bulging pocketbooks:

“Present prosperity is no reason for continuing the present national administration in power. The Wilson administration was not an agency in bringing on this prosperity. Place the country in the hands of the G. O. P. again and prosperity will be with us to stay.”

Good times are Republican, bad times are Democratic, that is an axiom. Prosperity under a Democratic administration is an anomaly and cannot last. In fact, the word “prosperity,” is copyrighted by the Republican party, describes a condition that cannot exist, or can exist only illusively or fleetingly, if not in the control of its Republican creatures and proprietors.

Haven’t the Republicans some legal remedy against Mr. Wilson and the Democrats for this palpable injury and damage? Can’t they sue the Democrats for alienating the affections of prosperity, for violation of copyright or loss of services? A sound lawyer like Mr. Taft ought to find some means of asserting a great Republican right and recovering possession of a valuable piece of Republican property. Or has nature “ratted” to the incompetent and calamity-making Democrats?

RED-HEADED VIC’S CRUEL ACT

Red-headed Vic Murdock of Kansas has sailed for Europe to “write up” the war for Collier’s, no matter if he does not get within fifty miles of the firing line as everyone now knows. And just before he sailed he perpetrated a bit of cruelty that no one could imagine would emanate from a red-headed man, as national chairman of the Bull Moose party to “shut up” the happy amity of the G. O. P.

It can also be said in the interest of fairness that Mr. Murdock does not draw an entirely rosative picture of Democracy either. Oh, the whole thing is cruel.

The Republican party is “on the rocks,” according to Murdock, divided and confused in its councils to a degree it has never been before. The Democratic party he describes as “floundering in a choppy sea with the captain steering a strange course with a mutinous crew.”

Mr. Bryan, so Mr. Murdock says, is already breaking up the furniture in the interest of the propaganda of peace,” while Mr. Taft, in his familiar impersonation as the national bumbard, has come back carrying the banner of Elihu Root. Senator Root, he remarks, “like all persons who attempt reform without really being reformers, get smashed,” and then he adds, “there is a special divinity which protects children, drunkards and radicals, but not reformers who aren’t really reformers.”

The present virulent discord and dissension in the Republican ranks grow,” Mr. Murdock opines, and the only answer to this riot of uncertainty and indecisiveness is the Progressive party, which brings a constructive program for business life, the proposal of a sane protective tariff policy and a demand for social justice and for straightforward preparedness, both on the military side and on the industrial and economic side.

Final! About the only thing Mr. Murdock forgets to mention is that all this is to come about through the happy cooperation of George W. Perkins of steel trust fame, and Theodore Roosevelt, whose idea of preparedness may be judged by the use he made of this country’s navy in grabbing Panama from a weaker nation and in frightening all South America into a fear of the “big stick.”

And last this really more than cruel, with winter just coming on and no place for the patriots to go?

GAZE AT THE GLORIOUS LEADERS

Henry D. Eastabrook delivered a warlike speech before the American Bankers association last week. He is mighty strong on getting ready to defend this country—and so, probably, are many others of the bankers association and the money kings of America.

Wait until the time arrives! Even now in fancy we see the big men of finance moving up to the front rank when the shock of battle comes. In the very front row we see that great Scotch-American, Andy Carnegie, and at his right elbow John D. Rockefeller, and his boy, Johnnie D., at his father’s right. And to the left of the canny Scot we see J. Pierp Morgan, and to his left Charles Schwab, and supporting him musket in hand, this patriot Eastabrook and Steel Trust George Perkins.

It will be a glorious sight to see these men on the firing line, and bear them telling the poor men of the land to stay at home and take care of their families while these rich men fight. Well, it will be a glorious sight.

The mayor of prohibition Atchison is under arrest for frequenting a club room that was raided the other night. Poor fellow.

Of course Hudson Maxim, the machine gun inventor, says that either England or Germany could have “brought the armies occupying New York and Boston aside of two weeks.” So does every other machine gun man say—and so does every man say who can profit through the sale of war implements or supplies. But the patriotic and honest, clear-thinking Americans—does not.

Clark, according to the “Steemed Gazette,” may be “the only hope of the Democrats to elect governor,” but there are 220,000 Democrats in this good old state all of whom like Clark, but nevertheless will elect any Democrat that the party puts on the ticket.

That Champ Clark will not make the race for the governorship of Missouri is a safe proposition. He is the third man in importance to the president of the United States, and why should the great Missourian want to take chances.

Earl Kitchener now says that the English will have a 400,000 army next spring. As the other allies of Great Britain have heretofore done all of the fighting while England sat back and yelled “sic ‘em.” It is time that a few Tommies took the field.

Henry Ford has proposed to take a peace commission to Europe and settle the war. Henry may make Ford, but his coconut is not yet active enough to settle the European muss and his dollars do not count there either.

The calamity soloists of Missouri—Charles Morris, John Swanger, three Es McJimsey and others of the calamity songsters, get weaker and weaker each day as prosperity makes itself more manifest with each sunrise.

Senator Weeks, who seeks the Republican presidential nomination, talks like an American citizen when he tells the Republicans to go on and support President Wilson’s preparedness program.

State Auditor Gordon’s political enemies are now going around with very black eyes—as they deserve to be—and as all should be who for political reasons try to pull good men down.

If the newspapers will not accept dishonest advertising there will be none of it, and no need of the brain tag the stuff is causing the Associated Advertising Club of the World.

If William J. Bryan takes the stump in Nebraska next year against all Democrats who do not agree with him on the prohibition question, he will be surprised when the returns come in.

In Rohr & Goodrich of the Francis Street Methodist church, told the Commerce club some truths Wednesday when he said that militarism is an incentive to war—as it is.

The Republican papers are great difficulty for President Wilson in getting desired legislation through Congress the coming term. Democratic do not.

We trust St. Louis will secure the national Democratic convention, for that body will name the man who will win and his name will be Wilson.

It is probably not a bad suggestion that we keep some of our own cash at home to use for preparedness instead of lending it to the Allies.

Why is it that it was a crime for the Germans to cross Belgium and it is all right for the French and English and Serbs to cross Greece?

The county court should have the help of every resident of the county in securing a new infirmary at the county farm.

The annual massacre of the innocents occurred Thursday when the football enthusiasts met on the field of glory.

The Phattie Purchase will show the world what it can do in the corn line at the Farmers’ Congress here next month.

Great heavens—we are going to have a presidential campaign next year, and Eugene V. Debs will not run!

It is only four more weeks until Christmas. Do your shopping now and with St. Joseph merchants.

Well, it’s all over—except the voting—two standpat artists have declared that they will support Grandpa Cummins.

Only four weeks more until you will wonder what you did with your summer wages.

DEMOCRATIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri, subject to the primary election, August 8, 1916.

ROBERT L. YOUNG.

Of course you ate turkey Thursday—warmed over turkey yesterday—and turkey hash today.

When hold up artists fall so low as to rob jitney drivers, it is time to open